

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ROME

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, OCON

SUBJECT: 9TH SESSION INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP ON OILSEEDS,
OILS AND FATS; ROME, ITALY, MARCH 26-28, 1975

1. UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED THAT ABSENCE OF DOCUMENTA-
TION MAY LIMIT EFFECTIVENESS SUBJECT MEETING. ON BASIS
OF AGENDA NOTES, WE VIEW DOCUMENTATION PROBLEMS AS
FOLLOWS: (A) AGENDA ITEM 4A: SECRETARIAT'S NOTE BASED
ON REPORT OF 49TH SESSION OF COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY
PROBLEMS, AND RESULTS OF 8TH SESSION OF UNCTAD COMMITTEE
ON COMMODITIES, ARE NECESSARY IN ADVANCE OF MEETING OF
INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP IN ORDER FOR DELEGATION TO PREPARE
MEANINGFUL RESPONSE. (B) AGENDA ITEM 4B: STATEMENTS
BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES RE CONSTRAINTS ON TRADE ARE
NEEDED IN ADVANCE BY OTHER MEMBERS FOR TECHNICAL REVIEW;
THIS WAS POINTED OUT IN 8TH SESSION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL
GROUP. (C) AGENDA ITEM 5: SIGNIFICANT DISCUSSION OF
NATIONAL POLICIES AND PLANS WILL DEPEND ON TIMELY ADVANCE
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DISTRIBUTION OF OILSEED CROP SURVEY PROGRESS REPORT AND AVAILABLE COUNTRY REPORTS. (D) AGENDA ITEM 6A AND 6B: DOCUMENTATION RELATIVE TO PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENTS FOR EARLIER PROJECTIONS THROUGH 1980 SHOULD BE REVIEWED BY OUR ECONOMISTS WELL IN ADVANCE OF SCHEDULED SESSION.

HOWEVER, NO DOCUMENTATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED TO DATE. LIKEWISE, END USE DOCUMENT ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN LAURIC AND PALM OILS REQUIRES REVIEW BY TECHNICIANS NOT LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE TO MOST DELEGATIONS IN ROME. (E) AGENDA ITEM 6C: IN VIEW OF SENSITIVITY OF SUBJECT OF AFLATOXIN, WE WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY COPY OF NOTE PROPOSED TO BE CIRCULATED AT THE SESSION.

2. USG IS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED THAT ABSENCE OF DOCUMENTATION ON SUCH A WIDE RANGE OF TECHNICAL SUBJECTS WILL NOT PERMIT SUFFICIENT TIME FOR MEANINGFUL REVIEW BY MOST GOVERNMENTS AND WILL SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE USEFULNESS OF SESSION. WE RECOMMEND THAT FODAG COMMUNICATE OUR CONCERN TO FAO IN EFFORT (1) TO IMPLEMENT EARLY COMPLETION AND DISTRIBUTION OF SCHEDULED DOCUMENTATION OR (2) TO HAVE FAO CONSULT WITH CHAIRMAN REGARDING RESCHEDULING SESSION TO COINCIDE MORE CLOSELY WITH AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTATION. KISSINGER

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